

ISSR Review



Recent Successes



Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute (APHCRI)

Associate Professor Michele Haynes has received a grant worth \$150,000 from the APHCRI to examine the utilisation of allied health services by people with chronic disease. APHCRI grants are highly competitive and this most recent round had only a 10% success rate. Michele is collaborating with Michele Foster (Social Work and Human Services), Geoff Mitchell in the Medical School and a health economist from Monash university. The project will be an important addition to a growing body of research in the institute that is looking at the social aspects of health and wellbeing.



ARC Discovery Grant Success

Dr Gentry White is part of a team working on the ARC Discovery project entitled 'Understanding how criminals decide where and when to offend'. This project will focus on the behavioural process concerning how offenders decide where to commit crime. The grant is valued at over \$500,000 and the Chief Investigator is Dr Michael Townsley of Griffith University. The innovative methodology and discrete spatial choice approach, provides an elegant and powerful structure to test hypotheses and advance understanding of offender travel choices. This project will contribute to understanding internationally by increasing methodological/statistical rigour in a "settled" research literature. The model of offender travel can also be applied to predict changes in offenders' preferences if new choices are introduced or attributes of existing choices alter. This has considerable policy implications in the areas of crime prevention, urban planning, public transport and housing.

This research will allow a comprehensive assessment of theoretical explanations of offender mobility but also provide the ability to predict how changes to offenders' preferences will impact decisions about where to commit crime.

Feature Story Research Program Updates



UQ/ISSR Survey reveals pollies' climate change confusion

A new survey of Australian politicians shows a clear majority believe climate change is happening, but many appear to be unsure about some of its consequences.

The University of Queensland (UQ) survey of more than 300 federal, state and local government politicians found that nearly 70 per cent believed human-induced climate change was happening and rated it as one of Australia's most important challenges.

[Read the full story...](#)

ISSR and University of Bristol team win grant funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (UK)

In November 2009, Associate Professor Michele Haynes and international colleagues Professor Fiona Steele, Professor John Ermisch, Dr Hill Kulu and Dr Paul Clarke won a research grant funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (UK) to investigate the interrelationships between housing transitions and fertility in Britain and Australia. In this research Michele will analyse data

from nine waves of the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) panel study to advance our understanding of how couples plan their family lives and housing careers in changing societal settings, and to identify changing priorities for the provision of housing assistance and policy (full story below).

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To begin progressing this research Michele left Brisbane in January 2010 to spend four months of her study leave in the much colder climate of the United Kingdom as a visiting academic in the Centre for Multilevel Modelling (CMM) at the University of Bristol. At the CMM Michele worked with Professor Fiona Steele and attended courses on the application of Multilevel Models to the analysis of data arising from areas of social science. During her study leave in the UK Michele was invited to the Longitudinal Studies Unit at the Institute of Education in London where she gave a seminar on the use of multiprocess, multilevel models for analysing longitudinal survey data with an application to marital status transitions and women's time on domestic labour. Michele also gave seminars in the School of Geography and Geosciences at St Andrews University and the Department of Applied Social Sciences at the University of Stirling, Scotland.

As well as undertaking these academic pursuits, highlights of Michele's trip to the UK included visits to the Gower Peninsular in Wales, Edinburgh, a very wet Easter in Paris and a cancelled trip to Amsterdam due to volcanic ash cloud. It was certainly an experience to be in England at a time when no air travel was permitted. In a follow-up to this trip, ISSR was privileged to host a visit by Professors Fiona Steele and Harvey Goldstein from the CMM for two weeks in October 2010 during which time they presented three workshops in multilevel models using MLWin software. Michele expects to travel to Bristol on several occasions in the future to continue working with collaborators on the ESRC grant.

Andrew Ross

Commercial Operations Manager

Andrew has over ten years project and operational management experience. He specialises in the design, implementation and monitoring of project-specific operational procedures and the integration of resources for high-stakes, large-scale projects. Andrew is experienced in project development and implementation from concept through to project completion and reporting and procedural development for quality standards and requirements. Andrew is a specialist in data collection having worked for more than ten years for a leading market and social research data collection agency holding national operations management and state manager positions.

2011 will see the continued development of ISSR surveys within the Innovation and Engagement Division. ISSR Surveys is an operational consultancy focusing on the disciplines and rigour required to conduct complex data collection projects for internal and external stakeholders. ISSR Surveys has access to the entire resource base of the Institute, and can draw on the research expertise from across the University and where appropriate from external academic and

commercial institutions.

The ISSSR Surveys team has extensive experience in undertaking surveys using a wide range of methodologies, over a multitude of subject area, with greatly varying target populations. We have high levels of expertise in undertaking surveys for government, Industry and academic institutions such as the Australian Federal Police; The Department of Immigration and Citizenship; The Department Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; QPSU and CPSU. We focus on the operational requirements of the project, the identification of areas of particular complexity and the quality controls necessary for smooth, timely project delivery.

ISSR Surveys will manage the majority of the Institute's data collection activities to allow academic staff to focus on research activities; coordinate all internal and external data collection activities; Develop consistent QA procedures around data collection activities and provide advice to the research programs on data collection methodologies. 2010 has seen an investment in a state of the art data collection platform for both our CATI facility and our online survey research. The Voxco system allows greater flexibility and true mixed mode functionality. We expanded our CATI capacity to 30 booths in June and will shortly increase it to 35 allowing us to take on large scale projects.

ISSR Surveys quantitative research disciplines include:

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- phone room facility
 - Self completion methods
 - Online capabilities
 - Mail Surveys

ISSR Surveys strive to be transparent and accountable; exacting in our application of project specifications; and sensitive to political, social and environmental influences. As a matter of choice, we adopt an inclusive, co-operative approach and are open to the involvement of our clients in key phases of the data collection and quality control processes. We welcome close collaboration with project stakeholders throughout the life of the project (and beyond) and understand the importance of an integrated approach to the success of the project.

Seminars

Visit the links below to read about some of the exciting seminars and workshops we hosted last year. Also see the [2011 Seminar program](#).

- [Life as a weapon: Making sense of suicide bombings, presented by Emeritus Professor Riaz Hassan, August 2010](#)
- [Multilevel Modelling Workshops, presented by Professors Fiona Steele and Harvey Goldsten from the Centre for Multilevel Modelling, University of Bristol, UK. Please click on individual workshops for further information - \[Workshop 1\]\(#\); \[Workshop 2\]\(#\); \[Workshop 3\]\(#\)](#)
- [Keith Hancock Public Lecture - The Poor Relation: A history of the social sciences in Australia, presented by Professor Stuart Macintyre, University of Melbourne.](#)
- [Indigenous Sentencing Courts and Partner Violence: A discussion about the impact of the process on Offenders and Victims, presented by Dr Elena Marchetti](#)
- [Reclaiming 'experience': What we can learn from the career of a concept, presented by Emeritus Professor David Silverman](#)
- [Public Lecture - The power of comparative data, presented by Professor Denise Lievesley](#)



Award

Professor Lorraine Mazerolle

Professor Lorraine Mazerolle was recently awarded the Freda Adler Distinguished International Scholar Award at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting in San Francisco.

THE AWARD:

According to DIC by-laws, the awardee is a non-United States scholar who has made a significant contribution to fostering research and exchange of information concerning criminology in an international perspective or a scholar whose work has been of particular interest to criminologists in the United States and has been a mentor/advocate for students studying international criminology.

WHO IS FREDA ADLER?

Freda Adler has contributed to international criminology in many ways. She was involved in the development of our Division and has been an active member since its inception. She has been a proponent for international criminology, advocating an international perspective in all research. Additionally, she has been an indispensable mentor for interested students. While many of her students recognize her mentorship during her tenure at Rutgers, she has touched the hearts and careers of many other students.

Freda's primary work for the last four decades has focused on internationalizing and globalizing the study of criminology. Her efforts began in 1976 when she wrote the report for the *Women's Year* on the role of women in the United Nations. Her efforts continued through more than 130 books and papers, including *Nations not obsessed with Crime* (1983) while working as a consultant to the United Nations and her well-known co-authored *Criminology and Criminal Justice System* text, now in its 6th edition.

In 1994/5, Freda was the ASC President, delivering her Presidential Speech at the 47th annual meeting titled "Crime and Justice: National and International." This address was one of ASC's first movements toward internationalizing the profession (published in *Criminology* (Volume 34, Number 1, 1996).



Ms Melanie Spallek

Melanie Spallek was successful in the application for the UQ AHURI scholarship and will start her PhD in February next year. For the last two years Melanie has been employed by ISSR as the data

archivist and will now continue her career in research. Melanie's background is in longitudinal data management and analysis, and public health, which also will be reflected in her PhD topic.

The research project for her PhD aims to advance housing, family and methodological research by investigating interrelationships between housing transitions, fertility and health, as well as addressing methodological issues along the way.



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